Ellerman Fleet Lost in War II Being Replaced: Liner Off Ways, 2 On; 9 Freighters Ordered
New York Herald Tribune (1926-1962); May 1, 1952;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: New York Tribune / Herald Tribune
pg. 30

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Liner Off Ways, 2 On; 9 Freighters Ordered

The Ellerman & Bucknall Steamship Co., of London, is gradually rebuilding its fleet of passenger and cargo vessels that was depleted by enemy submarines during World War II, John R. Neale, American director of the line, said yesterday.

An important step in replacing the line's forty-eight freighters and twelve passenger vessels which were sunk, was the launching in March of the 10,700-ton 106-passenger City of Port Elizabeth for the South African service. It was built at the Tyne yard of Vickers-Armstrong.

Three other passenger-cargo sister ship of the Port Elizabeth are building. The 540-foot motor ship is scheduled to sail on her maiden voyage late in November.

The line has also placed orders for nine new motor vessels for the general cargo trade. Delivery of the first of these fifteen-knot ships of 600,000 cubic feet capacity is expected in 1955.

The three-deck, single-stack liner is expected to make the passage from London to Cape Town in sixteen days. She will also call at Las Palmas, Port Elizabeth, East London, Durban, Lourenco Marques and Beira.

Accommodations of the cruiser-stern, rake stemmed vessels include twenty-three double and eleven single-berth cabins and four sitting room suites. Other facilities include a swimming pool, movie theater, dance floor, bar, restaurant and children's play room.

The main propelling machinery consists of twin-screw Hawthorn-Doxford opposed piston engines capable of developing 12,650 break horsepower.

Ellerman lines began their South African service sixty years ago when the Witwatersand gold mining industry was only six years old.

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